

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 23, 2007

The regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Commission for Women was held on Monday, July 23, 2007 in Room 372, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California.

President Lesser called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

The following Commissioners were present for roll call:

President Lesser
Commissioner Davalos
Commissioner Freeman
Commissioner Jernigan
Commissioner Rodriguez
Commissioner Tanberg

Introduction of the audience followed.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JUNE 11, 2007

On motion of Commissioner Davalos, seconded by Vice President Duba, and unanimously carried, the Commission approved to table the minutes until later in the meeting.

(Commissioner Gravely joined the meeting at 10:06 a.m. constituting a quorum)

(Treasurer Creary joined the meeting at 10:11 a.m.)

On motion of Commissioner Davalos, seconded by Vice President Duba, with Commissioners Tanberg and Gravely abstaining, and duly carried, the minutes of July 9, 2007 were approved with the following corrections: Page 2, 2nd bullet, The Los ~~Angels~~ **Angeles** City Commission... and the last paragraph, 1st Sentence, Commissioner Jernigan reported that ~~the~~ there are two... . Page 2, before Installation of Officers *add (Treasurer Creary joined the meeting at 10:06 a.m.)*. Page 3, 3rd paragraph, The Board had one meeting last week where ~~the~~ *they* tested.... Page 4, 7th paragraph, Commissioner Jernigan reported the Primary *Election* to fill the seat....

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Lesser gave a report of her attendance at the 38th Annual National Association of Commissions for Women (NACW) Convention, held July 11-14, 2007, in Louisville, KY. At the convention, she joined the National Committee in the prevention of Osteoporosis campaign "*Bone Health for Osteoporosis*". All health related information was given to Commissioner Tanberg to share with the Health Committee.

The Oklahoma State Commission for Women conducted a workshop on their Women's History newspaper of past and present women from Oklahoma, who have made a significant difference in Women's History. She also attended a very interesting workshop on *Mass Media Ownership: Marketing Pop Culture and the Images of*

Women. President Lesser will later distribute her notes, including the websites to visit, to learn more about this issue.

Lastly, she attended the Kentucky Governor's Conference for Women, Churchill Downs, and rode on a Paddle Wheeler down the Ohio River. President Lesser announced that the next NACW Convention will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She thanked the Commission for the experience; stating it was well worth it.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Creary reported on 2007-08 Fiscal Year expenditures and for the expendable allowance for the month of July 2007. The beginning balance as of July is \$37,341.87; expenditures were \$0.00; income was \$0.00; ending balance is \$37,341.87. The monthly allowance for July 2007 is \$3,111.82.

(Commissioner Pinedo joined the meeting at 10:22 a.m.)

STAFF REPORT

Staff reported the following:

- The Board of Supervisors unanimously selected William T Fujioka, former city administrative officer for Los Angeles City to become the chief executive officer for the County of Los Angeles on July 10, 2007.
- The Pasadena Commission on the Status of Women will host its 30th Anniversary Celebration and Launch of the Survival Guide for Individuals, Families and Organizations on Thursday, July 26, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Western Justice Center in Pasadena. All Commissioners are encouraged to attend.

APPROVE TRAVEL EXPENSES UP TO \$690.00 FROM THE PRESIDENT'S FUND FOR PRESIDENT LESSER AND COMMISSIONER DAVALOS TO ATTEND THE ACCW QUARTERLY MEETING IN SAN FRANCISCO ON AUGUST 3, 2007.

During discussion, Commissioners requested clarification of why this item was on the agenda being that the Trust Fund Criteria authorizes the President's discretion for expenditures from the President's Fund. Aware of the Trust Fund Criteria, President Lesser explained that because the President's Fund is part of the Commission's Trust Fund, expenditures should be discussed with the full commission for auditing purposes. It was also recommended that the retreat agenda include a discussion and determination of appropriate travel expenses for reimbursement by the Commission.

Following discussion on motion of Commissioner Davalos, seconded by Commissioner Freeman, with Commissioner Jernigan abstaining, and duly carried, the Commission approved the travel expense up to \$690.00 from the President's Fund for President Lesser and Commissioner Davalos to attend the ACCW quarterly meeting in San Francisco on August 3, 2007.

APPROVE THE SPONSORSHIP OF 15 LOW INCOME YOUTH AND WOMEN FROM EACH SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT, AT \$18.00 EACH, TO ATTEND THE 5K RUN/WALK AND HEALTH EXPO FOR GIRLS AT-RISK ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2007 AT THE ROSE BOWL IN PASADENA TOTALING \$1,350.00

On motion of Vice President Duba, seconded by Commissioner Davalos, and unanimously carried, the Commission approved to sponsor 15 low income youth and women from each supervisorial district, at \$18.00 each for a total of \$1,350.00 to attend the 5K Run/Walk and Health Expo for Girls At-Risk on September 15, 2007 at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena.

PRESENTATION FROM THE CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Mary Wiberg, Executive Director, California Commission on the Status of Women, gave the Commission an overview of the work of the California Commission for Women. Their primary function is to advise the State Legislature and Governor of issues and legislation that affect women. Ms. Wiberg informed the Commission that her staff regularly screens over 4,000 bills in a two year period. Currently, the California Commission for Women is supporting 80 legislative bills. Ms. Wiberg and her staff will give testimony, write letters to the Governor and Legislative Committees, and issue floor alerts to assist in getting legislation affecting women to pass, with the hopes that the Governor will sign the bills to become law.

In addition to screening legislation, the California Commission took a road tour holding public hearings across California to hear from women key issues, or lack of, that affect women in there county. This tour also helped the California Commission to inform the Governor and Legislature of problems affecting women in California. They were also able to identify the cities and counties where women were most underserved.

Ms. Wiberg shared with the Commission a brochure that was published with common concerns of women across the State. She also distributed a handout listing websites on where to find state and federal legislation. Ms. Wiberg and her staff plan to tour the State in the fall of 2008, to conduct additional public hearings, to gather more information and to track progress. Ms. Wiberg gave suggestion to the Commission on how to foresee upcoming issues affecting women. Also, she stressed the importance of writing to your district representative to support legislation and/or to inform them of pressing issues.

President Lesser thanked Ms. Wiberg for her time and her informative presentation.

PRESENTATION FROM SONGSALIVE!

Toni Koch and Gayle Day, Co-Producers, along with Mona Holmes were present to give a presentation on Songalive! Ms. Koch explained that Songalive! is a non-profit organization founded in 1971 by Gilli Moon and Roxanne Kiely in Sydney Australia. The organization's mission is to support and promote songwriters and composers

worldwide, giving life to song, providing opportunities for collaboration, create awareness to original music, and to educate through a network of programs providing access between songwriters and music business professionals. Ms. Day informed the Commission of their upcoming Los Angeles Women's Music Festival 2007: *Females on Fire*, to be held on Saturday, August 25, 2007 from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm, at Woodley Park, Encino, CA, general admission is \$25 and children under five years are free. The music festival will provide a venue with five stages for 50+ bands and performers to showcase their talents. The music festival is a green event for the entire family, with a children's area, pet adoption, vendor and exhibitor booths and more. The proceeds from the festival will be divided between eight animal rescue groups in Los Angeles. For additional information visit the Los Angeles Women's Music Festival 2007 website: www.LAWMF.com.

Vice President Duba, Chair of the 5K Run/Walk Committee suggested that Songalive! and the Commission exchange booth space at each others event.

President Lesser thanked Songalive! for their enlightening presentation.

UPDATE ON THE 5K RUN/WALK

Vice President Reiko Duba, Chair of the 5K Run/Walk Committee announced that running and walking training is held each Sunday at 7:00 a.m. at Griffith Park. Chair Duba reported that the Vice Mayor of Pasadena and Sheriff Baca have confirmed their attendance to the 5K Run/Walk. This year in the team challenge there will be women, men and coed groups. The next 5K Run/Walk meeting is today following the Commission meeting.

Chair Duba delegated responsibilities for the day of the 5K to commissioners and committee members as follows: Dr. Eloisa Gonzalez, warm-up aerobics; Commissioner Rodriguez and Davalos, commission booth; Commissioner Gravely, Friday and Saturday Expo booths; President Lesser, stage and program timekeeper; Pat Wilson, food and drinks; Commissioner Jernigan, VIP tent; Commissioner Freeman, media tent; and Commissioner Tanberg, awards.

PRESENTATION FROM SISTERS TOGETHER IN RETIREMENT

Wivory Brandle and Katie Cochran, members of Sisters Together in Retirement (STIR) gave an overview of their organization. Ms. Cochran explained that STIR is a group of retired Los Angeles County Probation female employees who meet quarterly to maintain social contact and interaction, while offering support when available to an identified community organization or program.

(Commissioner Becerra-Jones joined the meeting at 11:48 a.m.)

At STIR's quarterly meeting, Commissioner Peggy Freeman gave a presentation on the Commission's 5K Run/Walk and scholarship program for girls at-risk. Ms. Brandle informed the Commission that after the presentation STIR voted to support the

scholarship program annually with \$500.00, the check will be presented at the 5K event. The Commission was very elated and most grateful for the donation. Ms. Brandle also volunteered members from STIR to assist with the set-up of the 5K Run/Walk expo area on Friday, September 14, 2007.

Vice President Duba invited STIR to participate in the scholarship presentation and reception in January 2008 to meet the young ladies that they have agreed to help sponsor. She also thanked STIR for their support.

**APPROVE BUDGET FOR ANNUAL RETREAT TO BE HELD ON AUGUST 13, 2007:
\$1,450.00 FOR FACILITATOR AND REPORT AND UP \$900.00 FOR FOOD AND
FACILITY**

On motion of Commissioner Becerra-Jones, seconded by Commissioner Pinedo, and unanimously carried, the Commission approved a budget up to \$2,350.00 for the Annual Retreat to be held on August 13, 2007, \$1,450.00 for the facilitator and \$900.00 for food and facility.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Older Women's: Pat Wilson, Committee Member announced that the Los Angeles County Area Agency on Aging will have an Older Women's Conference in 2008 in the Second Supervisorial District. The topic of the conference will be *Functions of the Brain*. President Lesser expressed her gratitude to Ms. Wilson, for her continued support of the Older Women's Committee and for her dedication to the Commission.

Health: Commissioner Tanberg announced that the Health Committee will meet on Thursday, August 16, 2007 at 3:00 p.m. via teleconference.

Gender Equity: Commission Davalos reported that the Gender Equity Committee will meet on Wednesday, August 8, 2007 at 12 noon.

Education Committee: Commissioner Becerra-Jones reported that the Education Committee will meet in late September after the 5K Run/Walk.

Media/Public Relations: Commissioner Freeman reported that the Media Committee will participate in a joint meeting with the 5K Run/Walk Committee following today's meeting.

President Lesser announced that Treasurer Creary will be installed as President of the Auxiliary to the National Medical Association at their Annual Convention, August 4-9, 2007 in Honolulu, HI.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was none given.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Creary attended the RAPE! Nationwide Protest Press Conference, re: the Tory Bowen Case at the Beverly Hills Courthouse on July 17, 2007 at 12 noon.

Commissioner Rodriguez distributed copies of the Domestic Violence Prevention/Intervention Awards nomination forms. The deadline is August 3, 2007.

Vice President Duba reminded Commissioners to look at their last pay check stub which includes a message regarding the 5K Run/Walk.

Commissioner Freeman reported that she and her husband Rev. Freeman visited with Commissioner Mummey.

MATTERS NOT POSTED ON THE AGENDA (to be presented and placed on a future agenda):

Treasurer Creary asked staff to follow up with Eleanor Brown of Life Long Sisters Staying Healthy in her request for support. Commissioner Becerra-Jones asked Commissioners while on their travels to collect sample toiletries that the Commission can donate to the Cabrillo Housing Project for low income families. She will also provide staff with a contact from the Honda Corporation.

(Commissioner Pinedo left the meeting a 12:06 p.m.)

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

COMMISSIONERS

Charlotte Lesser, President
Reiko Duba, Vice President
Ruth Creary, Ph.D., Treasurer
Yolanda Becerra-Jones
Karin Davalos
Peggy Freeman
Wadie Gravely
Ruth Jernigan
Michelle Pinedo
Olivia Rodriguez
Bobbi Jean Tanberg

EXCUSED

Elise ZeBrack
Janet Mummey, Esq.

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Rhonda Rangel and Twila Kerr Executive Office
Eleanor Long, LAC Department of Public Health

GUESTS

Wivory Brandl
Katie Cochran
Gayle Day
Mona Holmes
Rev. Kurt Freeman
Toni Koch
Mary Wiberg
Pat Wilson